

3731  
Patent

Attorney Docket: 2620 (203-2764)

## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Timothy Wells, et al

EXAMINER: Jessica R. Baxter

SERIAL NO.: 09/865,774

GROUP UNIT: 3731

FILED: May 25, 2001

DATED: December 12, 2002

FOR: TROCAR ASSEMBLY WITH CUSHIONED ACTIVATOR

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. "1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.
- ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity under 37 C.F.R. "1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.

For	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate (Small Entity)	Addit. Fee	Rate	Addit. Fee
TOTAL CLAIMS*	10	10	0	x 9 =	\$0	x 18 =	\$0
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	1	1	0	X 42 =	\$0	x 84 =	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim				130		+ 260	\$0

\* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

\*\* If the "Highest No. Previously Paid for" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".

\*\*\* If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".

The Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or indep.) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 12, 2002.

Dated: December 12, 2002

  
Christopher G. Trainor

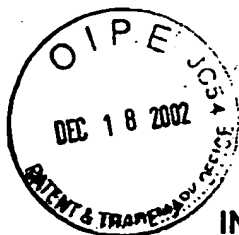
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2140 in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_. Two (2) copies of this sheet are enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.
- ☒ Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. "1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 50-2140. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 50-2140 therefor. TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.

Respectfully submitted,

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12-24-02  
PATENT

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**AMENDMENT**

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 12, 2002, please amend this application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 4, paragraph 1, please delete lines 1-14 and replace with the following:

A  
A cushioned grip member 22 is secured to at least one pressure contact region of hand grip 4. The pressure contact regions of the hand grip include those areas of the hand grip 4 to which a surgeon must grasp or apply pressure to during manipulation of the trocar assembly or insertion of obturator 6 through tissue into a body cavity. In a preferred embodiment, cushioned grip member 22 is formed from a thermoplastic elastomer or elastomer blend, such as Versaflex™ or Santoprene™, and is over-

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Dated: December 12, 2002

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